



## Can anyone run for political office?



## Requirements to hold federal office



A federal office holder must meet certain requirements



The U.S. Constitution establishes the requirements for holding an elected federal office.

To serve as president, one must be a natural-born\* citizen of the United States, at least 35 years old, and a resident of the United States for at least 14 years. A vice president must meet the same criteria. Under the 12th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the vice president cannot have served two terms as president.

Candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives must be at least 25 years old, have been U.S. citizens for seven years, and be legal residents of the state they seek to represent in Congress. U.S. Senate candidates must be at least 30, U.S. citizens for nine years, and legal residents of the state they wish to represent.

\* A NATURAL-BORN CITIZEN IS SOMEONE WHO WAS A U.S. CITIZEN AT BIRTH WITH NO NEED TO BE NATURALIZED.

Minimum Age

U.S. Citizenship and Residence

★ PRESIDENT

35 yrs

Natural-born\* U.S. citizen; reside in the U.S. for 14 years before the election

★ VICE PRESIDENT

35 yrs

Natural-born\* U.S. citizen; reside in the U.S. for 14 years before the election and must reside in a different state than the president

★ SENATOR

30 yrs

U.S. citizen for 9 years; reside in the state from which elected

★ REPRESENTATIVE

25 yrs

U.S. citizen for 7 years; reside in the state from which elected